(b) the time by which the trade agreements with the Russian Republic, Kazakistan and Kirghizia are likely to finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The agreement with Uzbekistan was signed on 24th October, 1991. It provides *inter-alia* for trade between India and Repuolic of Uzbekistan to be carried out on a balanced basis in Indian rupees. The invoicing of the items traded and periodic settlement of accounts will, however, be in convertible currencies. The items proposed to be exported include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemical and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, engineering goods etc. The items proposed to be imported include agricultural products minerals, fertilizers, metallurgical products, chemical and allied products, machinery and equipment etc.

(b) Dates for signing agreements with the Russian Republic, Kazakistan and Kirghizia are yet to be fixed.

Dornier-228 Light Transport Aircraft

4828. SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prospects of selling the Dornier-228 light transport aircraft manufactured by HAL in the foreign market are not encouraging;

(b) if so, the foreign markets tapped by the Government for selling the aircraft; and

(c) the main hurdles in promoting the sale of the aircraft in foreign market and the steps the Government proposed to take to overcome these hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (c). Prospects of sale of Dornier-228 Light Transport Aircraft manufactured by HAL are limited because the Company faces a competitive market situation and has permission of sale in only a limited number of countries under its license agreement with Dornier, Gmbh of Germany. Most of these countries prefer soft credit terms on account of their financial difficulties. HAL endeavours to meet this situation by making its price competitive and through offers of commercial credit packages. So far the Company has sold one Dornier to Mauritius.

Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies in Orissa

4829. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of primary weavers cooperative societies in Orissa at present;

(b) the details of the handloom goods manufactured by these societies during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any stocks have been accumulated with these societies and also with the Apex Societies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As per the information available with the Government of India, there are 756 working Cooperative Societies in Orissa State.

(b) Details of the Janata and Non-Janata handloom goods produced by these Societies during last three years are as under:-